

SOME NEW SPHINGIDAE IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

BY THE HON. WALTER ROTHSCCHILD AND KARL JORDAN.

1. *Polyptychus poliades* spec. nov.

♂. In size and pattern nearest to *P. orthographus* R. & J. (1903). Pinkish grey. A brown mesial stripe on head and anterior portion of thorax. Joint of palpus open, second segment rounded off. Tibial spurs somewhat shorter than in *P. orthographus*.

Wings, *upperside*: forewing with brown lines: a short thin subbasal line, a more prominent line at basal fourth, curving costad, an antemedian double line, feeble, biflexuose, curved basad anteriorly and posteriorly and in middle; interspace between this double line and the preceding one brownish: a small stigma with pale centre; an almost straight discal line, a little more proximal at costal margin than the corresponding line of *P. orthographus*, followed by a faint crenate line and a submarginal line, the latter being straight from costal margin to R^3 , and faint and flexuose farther back; hinder angle less produced than in *P. orthographus*, no distinct black-brown spot near this angle.—Hindwing pinkish drab, deeper in tint than forewing, grey at anal angle; a trace of a brown median line and of an interrupted subanal bar; fringe dotted with brown.

Underside more clayish grey than upper, both wings with a curved discal line and a row of submarginal dots, the dots of hindwing being replaced near anal angle by a line.

Genitalia: tenth tergite broad, narrowed beyond middle, then widening again a little, with an antemedian tubercle at the lateral edge, apex sinuate, the lobes broad, obtuse, somewhat slanting downwards; tenth sternite divided into two obtuse lobes. Clasper sole-shaped, with large patch of small friction-scales, the eighth tergite bearing laterally on inner surface a band of large friction-scales. Harpe nearly as broad proximally as the valve, and two-thirds the length of the same, sinuate at apex, the two lobes short and obtuse, the upper a little longer than the lower, both denticulate; dorsal edge of harpe produced at base into a long thin process which projects anal. Penis-sheath thin, bearing at apex a long pointed process which lies close on the sheath, being directed proximad.

Length of forewing: 33 mm.

Hab. Obuassi, Ashanti (G. E. Bergmann).

One ♂.

Typhosia gen. nov.

♂. Palpus closely appressed to the head, second segment much longer than the first; joint not open. Antenna less deeply grooved than in *Lycosphinx* R. & J. (1903); end-segment somewhat shorter, without long bristles, the scales of upperside projecting beyond apex. Posteriorly below eye a tuft of hair-scales, projecting forward, covering half the eye. Abdominal tergites with dispersed flat spines all over, besides the numerous spines at the edges. Tibiae spinose, spurs as short as in *Lycosphinx*, one pair to hindtibia, midtibia as long as midtarsus, hindtibia somewhat shorter than tarsus, but more than half as long again as first tarsal segment.

Neuration as in *Lycosphinx*, but Sc^2 and R^1 of hindwing on a shorter stalk, D^2 shorter, M^2 less proximal. Distal margin of forewing deeply emarginate between

the pointed apex and M^1 , sinuate behind M^1 , angulate at this vein, hinder margin deeply emarginate proximally of angle, the latter therefore produced backwards.

Type : *T. illustris* spec. nov.

Nearest to *Lycosphinx* R. & J. (1903), from which it differs especially in the eyes being covered by a brush of hair-scales as in *Rhodoprasina* and *Phylloxiphia* R. & J. (1903).

2. *Typhosia illustris* spec. nov.

♂. Body creamy buff, washed with olive anteriorly.

Wings, *upperside* : forewing creamy buff, somewhat shaded with clay, marked with olivaceous brown lines ; a double line crossing cell at base of M^2 , two parallel lines on disc, dentate on M^1 and M^2 , the second crossing subcostals just distally of fork ; a bar R^3 — M^1 nearly halfway to distal margin as remnant of a third line, which is faintly indicated at costal margin, an evenly curved line from tip of wing to R^2 and continued from here straight across lower angle of cell to costal margin, which it reaches not far from base.—Hindwing rufous-red, costal margin cream-colour as far as covered by forewing, abdominal margin creamy buff, this border widened forward distally and here irrorated with some brown scales ; fringe brown.

Underside buff, irrorated with brown scales.—Forewing rufous red from base to disc, a somewhat S-shaped line from subcostal fork to hinder margin, crossing R^3 about 3 mm. from cell, brown in front, reddish behind ; a second line about 3 mm. from the first, parallel with it, but dentate, brown, a sharply marked but thin brown line from apex to R^3 joining here the second line.—Hindwing slightly washed with red posteriorly at base, two parallel lines on disc, the first heavier than the second, almost touching lower angle of cell, ending at costal edge in a brown spot.

Genitalia : Tenth tergite almost completely divided into two processes which stand separate proximally but are converging, each process with almost parallel sides and ending suddenly in a very short brown point. Clasper without friction-scales, long, pointed, nearly symmetrical ; harpe very short, basal, consisting of a small curved piece of brown chitin. Penis-sheath without armature.

Hab. Obnassi, Ashanti (G. E. Bergmann).

Two ♂♂.

3. *Macroglossum hirundo samoanum* subspec. nov.

♂. Smaller than *M. h. citiense* and *h. hirundo* ; straight black-brown median band of forewing distinct, but the grey band absent ; yellow band of hindwing as broad as in *h. hirundo* ; yellow side-spots of abdomen also as in the Tahiti form.

Hab. Samoa.

One ♂.

Connects *ritiense* with *hirundo*.

4. *Macroglossum hirundo confluens* subspec. nov.

♀. Close to *M. h. lifuense* Rothsch. (1894), from Lifu. Black-brown antemedian band of forewing broader, almost completely merged together with the median band ; yellow band of hindwing broader than black-brown basal area. A small yellow side-spot on third abdominal segment and a few yellow scales on the fourth segment.

Hab. New Hebrides.

One ♀.